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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

<p>Int. Application No.: PCT/JP2004/001787</p> <p>Applicant: AOKI et al.</p> <p>Filed: Herewith</p> <p>Title: PLATE MATERIAL VERTICAL PROCESSING LINE</p> <p>Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned</p> <p>Examiner: Not Yet Assigned</p> <hr/> <p>Docket No.: 89047</p> <p>Customer No.: 22242</p>	<p><u>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"</u></p> <p>"Express Mail" Mailing Label Number <hr/>EV 769060060<hr/></p> <p>Date of Deposit: <u>August 18, 2006</u></p> <p>I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.</p> <p><u>ROGER V. SEWELL</u> (Typed or printed name of person mailing)</p> <p><u>Roger V. Sewell</u> (Signature of person mailing)</p>
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examining the above-identified U.S. national phase application of International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2004/001787, filed February 18, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.